

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 047742

52

ORIGIN EA-04

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /005 R

66606

DRAFTED BY: EA/ TB : GE MARTIN

APPROVED BY: EA/ TB: JOHN B DEXTER

----- 062385

R 15143 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

S E C R E T STATE 047742

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION TO SECSTATE INFO RANGOON CHIANG MAI
MAR 13, 1973 FROM BANGKOK REPEATED TO YOU:

QUOTE S E C R E T BANGKOK 4042

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TH, BM

SUBJECT: VISIT OF BURMESE FOREIGN MINISTER FURTHERS RTG- GUB
RAPPROCHEMENT

REF: BANGKOK 3182

1. SUMMARY: BURMESE FONMIN U KYAW SOE RECEIVED
GENEROUS ACCESS TO SENIOR RTG OFFICIALS DURING MARCH
9-12 VISIT. PRINCIPLE ISSUE RAISED BY BURMESE WAS, OF
COURSE, U NU AND HIS FOLLOWERS. A GUB COMMITMENT NOT
TO ALLOW ITS TERRITORY TO BE USED AS BASE FOR HOSTILE
ACTS AGAINST THAILAND DID NOT ELICIT RECIPROCAL
RESPONSE FROM RTG, BUT NEITHER SIDE EXPECTED IMMEDIATE
RESULT. NET RESULT IS IMPROVED ATMOSPHERE. FUTURE
PROGRESS DEPENDS ON RTG ACTIONS VIS- A- VIS U NU. END
SUMMARY.

2. GUB FOREIGN MINISTER U KYAW SOE VISITED BANGKOK MARCH
9-12. KYAW SOE AND PARTY WERE ACCORDED BROAD ACCESS TO
RTG FIGURES INNCLUDING AN AUDIENCE WITH THE KING, TWO
DINNERS WITH PM THANOM, A MEETING WITH GENERAL PRAPHAT,
SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 047742

AND A WEEKEND TRIP TO PATTAYA BEACH WITH A VISIT TO ACM
DAWEE' S PRIVATE ISLAND. GUB PARTY WAS ACCOMPANIED

THROUGHOUT ITS STAY BY DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER CHARTCHAI, MFA DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY PHAN WANNAMETHEE, SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER ASA SARASIN, AND MFA SEA DESK OFFICER THEP DEVAKULA.

3. ASA DESCRIBED VISIT TO POL COUNSELOR AS " GREAT SUCCESS". BURMESE FIRST SECRETARY AUNG THANT TOLD EMBOFFS VISIT PAVED WAY FOR FUTURE PROGRESS.

4. ACCORDING TO AUNG THANT, FUNDAMENTAL CONCERN OF GUB DELEGATION WAS ACTIVITIES IN THAILAND OF U NU AND HIS MOVEMENT. IN ANSWER TO QUERY HE ALSO INCLUDED KARENS AS MATTER OF CONCERN. AUNG THANT SAID RTG RAISED FISHING RIGHTS, SMUGGLING, AND DEMARCATION OF BORDER BUT BURMESE CONSIDERED THESE OF SECONDARY IMPORTANCE. RE BORDER DEMARCATION AUNG THANT SAID ONLY CONFUSION IS OVER WHERE CHANNEL HAS SHIFTED IN MAE SAI RIVER.

5. ASA TOLD POL COUNSELOR BURMESE " OBSESSED" WITH U NU. KYAW SOE GAVE COMMITMENT THAT GUB WILL NOT ALLOW ITS TERRITORY TO BE USED AS BASE FOR HOSTILE ACTS AGAINST THAILAND, IN ATTEMPT TO ELICIT SIMILAR RTG RESPONSE. DESPITE PRESS REPORTS TO CONTRARY, ASA AND AUNG THANT TOLD US THAI DID NOT RECIPROCATATE. ASA SAID BURMESE REALIZED THEY COULD NOT ASK RTG TO EXPEL U NU AND SUPPORTERS BUT HOPED RTG WOULD TRY TO CONTROL HIM, APPRECIATING DIFFICULTY OF POLICING LONG BORDER AND ACTIVITIES OF SHANS AND KARENS.

6. ASA SAI THAT IN ATTEMPT TO DEMONSTRATE GOOD FAITH TO BURMESE, RTG MIGHT ASK USG AND JAPANESE TO BEAR DOWN ON THEIR PRIVATE CITIZENS IN CONTACT WITH U NU.

7. AUNG THANT SAID GUB DID NOT EXPECT THAT ONE VISIT WOULD RESULT IN CONCRETE STEPS BUT SPOKE OF IMPROVED ATMOSPHERE. RE THAI POINTS ON FISHING, SMUGGLING, AND BORDER HE SAID GUB " NEITHER ACCEPTED NOR REJECTED" RTG POSITION BUT WOULD WAIT AND SEE WHAT DEVELOPED ON U NU FRONT. IF U NU PROBLEM WERE SETTLED, ALL OTHER PROBLEMS
SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 047742

COULD BE RESOLVED EASILY.

8. ASA STATED (AND PRESS REPORTS HIGHLIGHT) THAT THAI-BURMA BORDER COMMITTEE WOULD MEET SOON TO ADDRESS PROBLEMS. ASA SAID FIRST MEETING WOULD BE AT FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL, WHICH WOULD OF COURSE INVOLVE PM THANOM. AUNG THANT DENIED THAT THERE WAS ANY SPECIFIC AGREEMENT FOR FUTURE MEETINGS OF BORDER COMMITTEE OR AT OTHER LEVELS. HOWEVER HE DID NOT RULE THEM OUT.

9. IN PRESS CONFERENCE MARCH 12 PRAPHAT DOWN PLAYED ISSUES DISCUSSED, STRESSING PROMOTION CLOSER FRIENDLY RELATIONS. ON SAME DAY DEPONMIN CHARTCHAI TOLD PRESS THAT " DEFINITE ORDERS HAVE BEEN ISSUED FORBIDDING ANY-BODY TO GIVE AID IN ANY FORM TO U NU' S GROUP UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES". IN THIS AND OTHER REMARKS CHARTCHAI, MORE FORTHCOMING THAN OTHER RTG SPEAKERS, PERHAPS REFLECTING HIS LEADING ROLE IN ADVOCATING CLOSER TIES WITH BURMA.

10. RTG RECEPTION OF GUB FOREIGN MINISTER WAS WARM, AND GENEROUS ACCESS TO TOP LEVEL RTG RANKS CONTRIBUTED TO IMPROVED ATMOSPHERE. COMING ON HEELS OF CHARTCHAI' S SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO RANGOON IN FEBRUARY, STAGE SEEMS SET FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS IF RTG IS WILLING TO GRASP NETTLE OF NU AND FOLLOWERS. WHETHER RTG WILL REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

UNGER INQUOTE ROGERS

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 02 APR 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE047742
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EA/ TB : GE MARTIN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730346/abqcdxni.tel
Line Count: 129
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BANGKOK 3182
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31-Oct-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <21-Nov-2001 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF BURMESE FOREIGN MINISTER FURTHERS RTG- GUB RAPPROCHEMENT
TAGS: PFOR, TH, BM
To: TOKYO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005